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1994/04/02

BEIJIN 10344 020338Z PAGE 01

ACTION EAP-01

ACDA-17 ACDE-00 AID-01 AMAD-01 CIAE-00 C-01 LOG-00 INFO H-01 TEDE-00 INR-00 HA-09 OASY-00 DODE-00 EB-01 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 OIC-02 PA-01 ADS-00 L-01IO-16 TRSE-00 SR-00 SS-00 STR-01 SP-00 PRS-01 P - 01RPE-01

USIE-00 /056W

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O 020339Z APR 94

FM AMEMBASSY BEIJING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9165 INFO AMCONSUL SHANGHAI AMCONSUL SHENYANG

AMCONSUL GUANGZHOU AMCONSUL HONG KONG AMCONSUL CHENGDU

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

() RELEASE (X) EXCISE () DENY

PA Exemptions

'EIJING 010344

() DECLASSIFY O DECLASSIFY IN PART FOIA Exemptions

EO Citations

() CLASSIFY BB () S or () C () DOWNGRADE TS to () S or () C

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR TAGS: PHUM, CH

SUBJECT: WEI JINGSHENG INTERROGATED AGAIN

REF: BEIJING 10115, BEIJING 7248

ENTIRE TEXT. 1.

2. WEI JINGSHENG WAS "SUMMONED FOR QUESTIONING" BY POLICE ON APRIL 1

THE IS

PAGE 02 BEIJIN 10344 020338Z APPARENTLY STILL IN CUSTODY.

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3. COMMENT: WE SUSPECT THAT WEI'S DETENTION IS TEMPORARY, AND THAT SECURITY FORCES WANT TO PRESSURE HIM TO CURTAIL HIS PUBLIC ACTIVITIES NOW THAT HE HAS RETURNED TO BEIJING. IT MAY ALSO BE CONNECTED TO THE PRESENCE OF AUSTRALIAN FOREIGN MINISTER GARETH EVANS IN BEIJING FROM APRIL 1-3. ALTHOUGH WEI'S ORIGINAL PRISON SENTENCE, AND THEREFORE PAROLE, IS APPARENTLY OVER, HE IS STILL SUBJECT TO AN ORDER DEPRIVING HIM OF HIS POLITICAL RIGHTS FOR AN

ADDITIONAL THREE YEARS. WHILE OUR (ADMITTEDLY INEXPERT)
READING OF CHINESE LAW INDICATES DEPRIVATION OF POLITICAL
RIGHTS RESTRICTS ONLY THE RIGHT TO VOTE AND RECEIVE
GOVERNMENT BENEFITS, THE GOVERNMENT IS USING THIS TO
FORMALLY WARN JOURNALISTS THAT THEY CANNOT INTERVIEW HIM.
WHEN JOURNALISTS ASKED A FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN
CONFIDENTIAL

WHETHER DIPLOMATS COULD INTERVIEW WEI, THEY WERE TOLD NOT TO ASK IRRELEVANT QUESTIONS.

NNNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification ***